REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7, 8 and 17 have been amended to further particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention. The text of claims 9-12 is unchanged, but their meaning is changed because they depend from amended claims.

Support for these changes may be found in the Specification, on page 11, lines 6-15.

Claims 1-6 and 13-16 have been cancelled, without prejudice.

New claims 18-31 also particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention.

Support for these claims may be found in the Specification, on page 11, lines 6-15, and page 13, line 10 through page 15, line 6.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Yalcinalp[1], among which claims 1, 7, 13, 16 and 17 are independent claims. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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[1] U.S. Patent 6,507,857

According to the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.),

> To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in the applicant's disclosure.[2]

Specifically, the Office Action contends that the elements of the presently claimed invention are disclosed in <u>Yalcinalp</u>, except that <u>Yalcinalp</u> does not teach accessing a database.[3] The Office Action further contends that Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA) taught accessing a database and that it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that incorporating APA's database with the system in <u>Yalcinalp</u> would provide the capability for storing and organizing large amounts of disparate information in such a way that a computer program could quickly retrieve pieces of data. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-6 and 13-16 have been canceled.

Claims 7 and 17 as amended contain the limitation "accepting a task form from the user, said task form containing data tags and/or process tags, said data tags identifying persisted and non-persisted data components." Neither <u>Yalcinalp</u> nor APA teach nor suggest this limitation.

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[2] M.P.E.P § 2143.
[3] Office Action ¶ 3.

The system in <u>Yalcinalp</u> is solely concerned with extending an XSL style sheet to include components that allow for the transformation of content in a document. There is no discussion of integration of such a system into a workflow server system, which presents its own set of problems and benefits. Therefore, there was no reason for <u>Yalcinalp</u> to discuss task forms or the handling of persisted versus non persisted data components, as data in the document is not really relevant to <u>Yalcinalp</u> - the transformation of the document itself is what is sought.

Additionally, claims 7 and 17 as amended contain the limitation "storing said persisted data components in one or more form data tables." Neither <u>Yalcinalp</u> nor APA teach nor suggest this limitation. <u>Yalcinalp</u> would not be concerned with form data tables because they would be involved in the storing of persisted data components, which are not relevant to the transformation of a document.

The same argument is applicable to new claim 22.

As far as dependent claims 8-12, 18-21, and 23-31, the argument set forth above is equally applicable here. The base claims being allowable, the dependent claims must also be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.
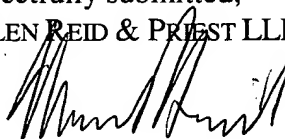
Request for Allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: 9|12|03

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